

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A retention system for a hand tool combination
2 having a primary tool and a secondary tool, comprising:
3 a first ~~retainer~~ magnet having a first polarity coupled to the primary
4 tool;
5 a second ~~retainer~~ magnet having a second polarity coupled to the
6 secondary tool;
7 wherein the first ~~retainer~~ polarity and the second ~~retainer~~ polarity are
8 configured for attraction by a magnetic force;
9 so that the secondary tool is retained in connection with the primary
10 tool.
- 1 2. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 first ~~retainer~~ ~~comprises a first magnetic member~~ magnet is fixed to the primary tool.
- 1 3. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 2 wherein the
2 second ~~retainer~~ ~~comprises a second magnetic member~~ magnet is fixed to the
3 secondary tool.
- 1 4. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 3 wherein the
2 first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet has one of a first positive polarity and a negative
3 polarity and the second ~~magnetic member~~ magnet has the other of the positive polarity
4 and the negative ~~a second polarity opposite from the first polarity.~~
- 1 5. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 first ~~retainer~~ magnet is substantially aligned with the second ~~retainer~~ magnet when the
3 secondary tool is retained in a stowed position within a ~~in the~~ receptacle of the
4 primary tool.

1 6. (Original) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the primary tool is
2 an axe.

1 7. (Original) The retention system of Claim 6 wherein the secondary tool
2 is one of a knife and a saw.

1 8. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 first magnet is at least partially offset from the second magnet ~~retainer comprises a~~
3 ~~magnetic material and the second retainer comprises a metallic material responsive to~~
4 ~~magnetic attraction.~~

1 9. (Currently Amended) The retention system of Claim 1 wherein the
2 offset is sufficient to maintain a magnetic attraction to draw the secondary tool toward
3 a stowed position in connection with the primary tool ~~first retainer comprises a~~
4 ~~metallic material responsive to magnetic attraction and the second retainer comprises~~
5 ~~a magnetic material.~~

1 10. (Currently Amended) A combination hand tool having a primary hand
2 tool configured for storage of a secondary hand tool therein, the combination hand
3 tool comprising:

4 a receptacle formed within an elongated handle member of the primary
5 hand tool;

6 a first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet having a first polarity coupled to the
7 primary hand tool;

8 a second ~~magnetic member~~ magnet having a second polarity opposite
9 the first polarity and coupled to the secondary hand tool and configured to operably
10 engage the first magnet ~~magnetic member~~;

11 so that the secondary hand tool is retained within the receptacle by a
12 magnetic force.

1 11. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the primary hand tool is an axe and the secondary hand tool is ~~one~~ selected from the
3 group consisting of a camping gear item, a survival gear item ~~a fishing gear item~~, a
4 hiking gear item, and a fishing gear item.

1 12. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first
2 magnetic member is coupled to an actuatable member configured to alternate a
3 polarity of the first magnetic member for interfacing with the second magnetic
4 member.

1 13. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the
2 actuatable member is a thumbwheel.

1 14. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the first
2 magnetic member and the second magnetic member are operable to at least partially
3 withdraw the second hand tool from the receptacle.

1 15. (Original) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein the
2 magnetic force is a minimum of approximately 4000 gauss.

1 16. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet is fixed to the primary hand tool and the second
3 ~~magnetic member~~ magnet is fixed to the secondary hand tool.

1 17. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet and the second ~~magnetic member~~ magnet are
3 configured in substantial alignment when the secondary hand tool is retained within
4 the primary hand tool.

1 18. (Currently Amended) The combination hand tool of Claim 10 wherein
2 the first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet and the second ~~magnetic member~~ magnet are
3 configured in at least a partially offset relationship when the secondary hand tool is
4 retained within the primary hand tool.

1 19. (Withdrawn) The combination hand tool of Claim 12 wherein the
2 actuatable member is configured for rotational movement.

1 20. (Currently Amended) A system for storing a first object in connection
2 with a second object, comprising:

3 a first retainer having a first ~~magnetic member~~ magnet with a first
4 polarity coupled to the first object;

5 a second retainer having a second ~~magnetic member~~ magnet with a
6 second polarity coupled to the second object and configured to ~~coact with~~ attract the
7 first retainer by a magnetic attraction;

8 so that the first retainer and the second retainer are operable to retain
9 the second object in connection with the first object until the second object is removed
10 by overcoming the magnetic attraction ~~a user~~.

1 21. (Original) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first object is a hand
2 tool.

1 22. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first retainer is
2 configured to be actuatable between a first position for retention of the second object
3 and a second position for extraction of the second object.

1 23. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 22 wherein the first magnetic
2 member and the second magnetic member are attracted in the first position.

1 24. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 23 wherein the first magnetic
2 member and the second magnetic member are repelled in the second position.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first
2 magnetic member is fixed to the first object and the second magnetic member is fixed
3 to the second object so that the first magnetic member and the second magnetic
4 member are arranged in a relationship that is at least partially offset with respect to
5 each other.

1 26. (Original) The system of Claim 20 wherein the first object comprises
2 an elongated member providing a receptacle and the second object is configured for
3 retention within the receptacle.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 26 wherein the first object
2 is a camp axe and the second object is ~~one~~ selected from the group consisting of a
3 knife, a saw, a cooking utensil, a compartment, a camping gear item, a hunting gear
4 item, a fishing gear item and a survival gear item.

1 28. (Currently Amended) In an apparatus comprising a first hand tool
2 having a receptacle and a second hand tool configured for storage within the
3 receptacle, the improvement comprising a retention system having a first ~~retainer~~
4 magnet with a first polarity coupled to the first hand tool and a second ~~retainer~~ magnet
5 with a second polarity coupled to the second hand tool, where the first ~~retainer~~
6 polarity and the second ~~retainer~~ polarity are configured for magnetic attraction, so that
7 the second hand tool is retained within the receptacle until removed by a user.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first hand tool
2 comprises a first cutting tool and the second hand tool comprises a second cutting
3 tool.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first
2 polarity is one of a positive polarity and a negative polarity comprises ~~retainer~~
3 ~~comprises a first magnetic member.~~

1 31. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 30 wherein the first retainer is
2 configured to alternate the polarity of the first magnetic member relative to the second
3 retainer.

1 32. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 31 wherein the first magnetic
2 member is configured for rotation.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the second retainer
2 comprises a second magnetic member.

1 34. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 28 wherein the first retainer is
2 actuatable between a first position for retention of the second hand tool within the
3 receptacle and a second position for withdrawal of the second hand tool from the
4 receptacle.